ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2012 Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery News Release 23 Kuskokwim River Subdistrict 1-A and Subdistrict 1-B to open for Commercial Salmon Fishing

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Bethel for subsistence and commercial salmon fishermen in the Kuskokwim Management Area.

Subdistrict 1-A

Subdistrict 1-A within District 1 will open to commercial salmon fishing for 4 hours from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 6, 2012.

Processing capacity for this commercial fishing period is limited. Fishermen are reminded to register with Kuskokwim Seafoods (543-5700) prior to fishing.

The hours for subsistence closures adjacent to periods of commercial fishing on the Kuskokwim River are 6 hours before, during, and 3 hours after commercial fishing. Therefore, from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 6, subsistence salmon fishing in the Kuskokwim River will be closed from Bogus Creek downstream to a line between Oscarville and Napaskiak.

Preliminary harvest information from the August 2 commercial period in Subdistrict 1-A was 3,496 coho; 485 chum; 7 sockeye; and 0 Chinook salmon from 65 permit holders. The chum salmon run is nearly over and the coho salmon run appears to be late but building.

Subdistrict 1-B

The Lower Section of Subdistrict 1-B, that portion of District 1 from a line between ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 15 miles downstream of the Johnson River to the lower boundary of District 1 defined as a line from Apokak Slough to the southernmost tip of Eek Island to Popokamiut will open to commercial salmon fishing for 6 hours from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 7, 2012.

The Upper Section of Subdistrict 1-B, that portion of District 1 downstream of regulatory markers located at Bethel to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 15 miles downstream of Johnson River, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 4 hours from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 7, 2012.

The hours for subsistence closures adjacent to periods of commercial fishing on the Kuskokwim River are 6 hours before, during, and 3 hours after commercial fishing. Therefore, from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 7, subsistence salmon fishing in the Kuskokwim River will be closed from the upper end of Straight Slough downstream to the mouth, defined by a line from Apokak Slough to the southern-most tip of Eek Island to Popokamiut.

Preliminary harvest information from the August 3 commercial period in Subdistrict 1-B was 6,958 coho; 493 chum; and 9 sockeye salmon from 127 permit holders. The chum salmon run is nearly over and the coho salmon run appears to be late but building.

Further announcements will be made from the Bethel ADF&G office, on the state web site (http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main), and local radio stations. News releases will be faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies.

For additional information concerning this news release:

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